

# Construction Notice

10/26/2010

## Project Update for Ballard Roadside Raingardens

### PROJECT UPDATE:

As wet weather season is approaching and the raingardens are still under construction, SPU would like to remind residents that some raingardens may fill up with water during major storms.

The raingardens may fill with water and may be full as long as heavy rains persist. Once a raingarden is complete with landscaping, the design expectation is that it will drain within 72 hours after the rain stops.

At this time, SPU has temporarily plugged upstream inlets so they should not fill up as easily. These measures will remain in place until the raingardens are fully constructed and planted.

### For questions or comments about this project:

- Call **(206) 386-9161**
- Email **SPU\_BRR@seattle.gov**
- Visit the project website at [www.seattle.gov/util/ballardbasin](http://www.seattle.gov/util/ballardbasin)

See next page for project background and description.



## **Ballard Roadside Raingardens**

### **PROJECT BACKGROUND:**

The first phase of Ballard Roadside Raingardens began in June 2010. Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) has started construction of a natural drainage project in north Ballard that will help reduce stormwater runoff and combined sewer overflows (CSOs) to Salmon Bay. The project is located within the Ballard Combined Sewer Overflow basin area. SPU is required to control the number of overflows from this basin, which are heavily influenced by stormwater. Stormwater collects in shallow depressions with spongy soils and attractive plantings that allow it to slowly filter into the ground. The design helps to calm traffic, improves the appeal of the street, and makes it safer for pedestrians. SPU monitors these installations to quantify the amount of stormwater diverted from the combined sewer system.

### **THE PROJECT:**

The Ballard Roadside Raingardens project installs raingardens in the public right-of-way of 10 blocks in north Ballard. The raingardens are constructed using soils specially designed to infiltrate and filter stormwater off the roads and they are densely planted to enhance pollutant removal while providing attractive landscaping. The raingardens temporarily accommodate up to six inches of ponding in order to store and treat as much of the runoff as possible. These facilities are located within existing planting strips, and in some cases may extend into roadways for a short length. In areas where they extend into the roadway, the facilities serve a secondary purpose as traffic calming features.

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The Ballard Roadside Raingardens are part of Seattle's Combined Sewer Overflow Reduction Program to provide cleaner waterways for a healthy Seattle. To find out more, go to

[www.seattle.gov/CSO](http://www.seattle.gov/CSO)

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